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"BUILDERS OF QUALITY HOMES"
STONE and MARBLE come into the HOME

HERE'S the inside story—how you can get in on the newest trend in interiors. It's a simple story, straight from nature. In fact, the whole trick is to use and decorate with nature's prime materials—stone and marble.

Walls, fireplaces and floors have been built of stone or marble for centuries. There's nothing new in that. But there is plenty new in the ways that architects and decorators are utilizing stone these days.

For one thing, they are not building stone walls ten or twelve inches thick anymore. It isn't necessary. Now, with stone available in three and a half inch thicknesses, it can be laid up on a wall anywhere, inside or out. This means you can have a very beautiful stone wall in the living room, hallway, playroom or even bedrooms. And you can set off the natural beauty of stone with another wall of redwood or of glass, if you wish.

Then, when you plan the rest of the room, you can duplicate the colors of the stone in your drapes, rugs, furniture covering or other appointments. You can use nature's colors for your own color scheme.

Stone or marble floors are also becoming increasingly popular indoors. A floor which begins as a patio and continues into the home, one which is allowed to flow in and out without a break, becomes a link between indoor and outdoor living.

A touch of stone flooring in the entranceway or in any area which is traveled much will prove economical as well as beautiful. In many homes today the hearth is raised and projected into the room, sometimes as much as one third of the living room length, giving the effect of a two level living room.

And, speaking of separating different parts of your house, a very interesting room divider can be built out of stone as well. By building a stone planter box between two rooms you can have a marvelous room divider to keep the rooms apart yet permit a flow of space between them. A planter box room divider such as this can be balanced by another stone planter box beneath a picture window or even in one corner next to a window.
COMFORTABLE, well-lighted place to study—at home or college—may not make homework any easier for the off-spring to take—but, perhaps, don’t let that discourage you from making homework easy on their eyes.

The right desk lamp in the right place protects young eyes from the discomfort of glare and from the annoyance of contrasts and shadows. The proper location of desk, and even a blotter on a highly-polished desk top, are further aids to eyesight comfort.

According to Miss Myrtle Fahsbeneder, director of home lighting for Westinghouse, the “right desk lamp” may be a table or wall model—or even a pair of wall lamps—provided there is a glass or plastic reflector bowl under the shade. This type of under-shade construction is described as particularly “easy on the eyes” because it produces a combination of upward and downward light that reduces the eye-irritating difference in brightness between the desk top and the rest of the room. Downward illumination is “sifted” through the reflector bowl and becomes pleasant and glare-free.

Height of the lamp is equally important. Too short a lamp gives such a meager spread of light that part of the desk is virtually “in the dark”. With too-tall a lamp, the bottom of the shade is likely to be far above eye level, and the under-shade brightness will be uncomfortable. For a happy medium in height—and this goes for either table or wall lamp—the distance from the top of the desk to the bottom of the shade should be about 15 inches.

An open-top, light-lined shade is recommended. The open-top permits upward illumination into the room. A light lining increases the amount of reflected downward light by as much as 50 per cent.

To get the full money’s worth of light from a well-chosen lamp, it should be placed on the side of the desk opposite the writing hand. Otherwise, shadows from the pencil and writing hand rob the eyes of some of the light they need to see by, and dark, moving shadows on the writing page are distracting. A 150-watt bulb provides the right amount of light.

A light-colored desk—or a table—with a dull finish is “tops” for comfortable seeing. When that isn’t available, a white or light-colored desk blotter serves to eliminate reflections from a highly-polished surface and to minimize the contrast between darkness of desk top and whiteness of reading and writing page.
1. Young eyes struggle to see with desk lighting like this. The too-short decorative lamp gives a skimpy spread of light, so skimpy that the book is virtually in the dark. “Busy” pattern of wallpaper is distracting at close range.

2. Several changes for the better shown here. Height of lamp, with bottom of shade about 15 inches above the desk top, produces generous circle of light. Desk at right angles to wall eliminates annoyance from wallpaper.

3. Thumbs down on the direct-type of study lamp, like this gooseneck because it causes discomfort on several counts. In an attempt to get light where needed, direct glare from open end of lamp hits the eyes head on.

4. A glareless quality of light is distributed over the entire desk top thanks to wall lamp at side of desk opposite the writing hand, equipped with diffusing bowl under shade, and mounted about 15 inches above desk top.
WHAT'S NEW IN HOME FURNISHINGS?

The greatest array of furniture and home furnishings ever produced by the industry is on display now at your local stores. And the trend is to the elegant line, the elegant fabric, the elegant colors.

Color is the focal point in all the new furniture fashions. Pink is the big news on furniture. You will see pink bedroom suites, pink upholstered pieces and pink leather. It's a fashion-right color, and one that will wear well. Blue, too, is becoming more popular, and will be seen more often in shades ranging from delph blue to pastel blue.

The trend is to the compatibility of styles. You can mix the various styles of furniture without fear of disrupting the harmonious decoration of a room. Traditional furniture is cleaned up, more modern looking. Modern has softer lines and takes on new shapes with gently curving legs. You will see, too, inlays used on modern furniture.

You are sure to appreciate the hard-wearing woods of knotty pine, ash, maple and oak, which are all used in producing the casual furniture groupings that are so ideal for fireplace settings. These are usually designed with simple line, and an absence of dust absorbing carvings. Their surfaces are high waxed and dust-proofed.

For snacks and corn-popping, small tables that can be pulled into quick service are an absolute "must."

"Uplifted" from the floor is the upholstery fabric used for a new series of lounge pieces by Selig of Leominster. The fabric—tufted loop-twist in white—is used to cover this contour chair and ottoman.

Here is a fireplace grouping that combines the old and the new. Furniture is constructed of knotty pine with a contemporary fabric used for the upholstering. Lamp table features shelves with wrought iron grill work on the sides.
Don't forget end tables when you plan your fireplace setting. But select ones that will give you storage space.

Look for the utility features in all the furniture you buy. Manufacturers are paying greater attention to this than ever before.

If yours is a room with a fireplace and television by all means add revolving chairs to your room plan. Don't neglect your fireplace arrangement. It's an American tradition.

In the versatile type of furniture you will find chairs, couches, sofas, chests, tables and ottomans that either double as, or open into, comfortable beds. Other dual-purpose pieces double as studio couches and storage chests for blankets, pillows, and extra linen.

Here is a room designed for maximum use. The two double beds are arranged to double as seating units during the day. Three drawer desk with open book shelf makes this an ideal room for the den.

A chair that combines the comfort qualities of a traditional wing chair with the indestructible attributes of one of today's new materials—fiberglas—is introduced by Selig, shown below.
THERE'S A MIRROR FOR EVERY ROOM

THE foyer—the dining room—the living room—the bedroom—the dressing room—the bathroom—there’s a mirror for every one of these rooms. Remember, a mirror is no longer just a looking glass. A carefully chosen decorative mirror can transform every room in the home by contributing the two vital decorating attributes of light and space.

For instance, a large horizontal mirror hung on the long wall of a long and narrow room will tend to widen the room. In a low-ceilinged room, a mirror hung vertically will heighten the room. The room’s dimensions can be completely altered by the illusion that mirrors create. The walls can be made seemingly non-existent, their limitations removed.

Since a mirror’s primary function is to reflect, advantage should be taken of its light-reflecting qualities as well as the attractiveness of the room picture it repeats. The dispersion of light, in addition to lending sparkle to a room, increases a room’s spaciousness. Dark corners can be made bright by the mirror’s reflection of daylight or lamplight.

A mirror is always attractive hung over the mantel and effectively fills that important space which is the center of attention in a room with a fireplace.

The value of a mirror as an accessory to a bedroom can be compared to the dash and zip a new hat can contribute to last year’s grey flannel suit.

A mirror in the bathroom is an absolute “must.” But it can also contribute to the attractiveness of the room. It is important to hang the mirror at eye level.
WARM UP FOR THE WINTER SEASON

TAKE a tip from the experts—get your house ready for winter now. If you haven't done the things checked in the column at the right do them now. Later on, your carpenters, plumbers and other craftsmen will be up to their ears in work, and you will be put on a waiting list. Insulation is an important item to consider. A tremendous fuel saver, insulation is the kind of investment that begins to pay off immediately and saves money year by year. Not only does it keep the house warmer in the winter, but also cooler in the summer.

Along with that, of course, should go weatherstripping, storm doors and windows as a means of keeping the cold out. They reduce drafts, help increase temperature near floors, reduce condensation on windows, cut down infiltration of dust and soot, save fuel.

Caulking adds greatly to the stopping of air leaking into the house around window and door frames. Caulk also around chimneys, porches, foundations, or any place where there is a crack between materials. Remember, too, your roof must be in perfect shape to keep out rain and snow. And the furnace should be well oiled and cleaned, ready to perform the important task of creating heat for the house. The picture below shows a cozy living room on a winter day. Yours, too, can be warm and cozy if you follow the rules.

HERE ARE THE THINGS
YOU SHOULD CHECK—NOW

INSULATION
WEATHER STRIPPING
STORM DOORS
STORM WINDOWS
CAULKING
ROOFING & SIDING
POINTING
CLEAN & OIL FURNACE
RADIATORS
CHIMNEY
PLUMBING
You are probably asking the same question that so many other people have asked. Can it be the same house? Yes, the sixty-year-old relic shown in the inset was remodeled in such a clever fashion that all signs of age vanished. The most important part of the job was the addition of another room to serve as a den. A twelve-foot glass doorwall and matching windows were deftly designed into the added-on den to make the old house unmistakably contemporary. The glass doorwall, by Steelbilt, slides open or shut.

A TYPICAL example of what can be done with an old, cluttered basement is shown in these two pictures. At the right you see the basement before it was remodeled, below the basement after. A wall built in front of the stairway contains built-in shelves for records and books. A screen can be pulled down for movies. Note projector in foreground. Also note clever little dinette at right.
WHAT! A Furnace with FINS?

Sure! Here's why. On a hot day at street level, you'd freeze at 30,000 ft., because air is heated only by contact with hot surfaces, such as buildings, which intercept the sun's heat rays.

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